Production of aerotyres in Dunlop units

1082. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "Ministries keen on early resumption of Dunlop units" in Business Line dated 7th February, 2002;

(b) whether Air Force has immediate requirement of aerotyres worth Rs. 100 crore as reported; and

(c) the action taken by Government to restart aerotyres production in Dunlop?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air Force has immediate requirement of aerotyres worth approximately Rs. 50 crores.

(c) The State Government of West Bengal has been requested to take steps to get the Dunlop factory restarted. Discussions arc being held with trade unions, bankers and other related agencies in this regard.

Huge unspent amount from defence budget

1083. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence Ministry has been able to spent only Rs. 6,000 crore out of the total budget of Rs. 19,959 crore for 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps the Ministry propose to take to spend its total budget for the ensuing year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.